

Readme file for “Firming Up Inequality”

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The majority of the data for our paper, “Firming Up Inequality,” comes from the Social Security Administration’s Master Earnings File. Programs and outside data that can be used to replicate most of the figures and tables in that paper are described below. However, running most of the analyses in them necessitates access to SSA data as well as additional data preparation steps.

Programs used to analyze the Census Longitudinal Business Database are not provided here but are available within the Census.

There are two sets of programs provided here: one set used to run most analyses besides that using the AKM model, and one set that estimates the AKM model and interprets the results.

- Non-AKM analyses

1. `decomp_mmnts.do`. Performs the majority of the analysis in this paper, besides the analysis using the AKM model.
2. `graphs_level.do`. Creates most of the graphs and tables in this paper, besides those using the AKM model. Uses `outsidedata.csv` and CPS, in addition to data generated at the SSA; the sources of those data sets are described in the code.

- AKM analyses

1. `AKMest.m`. Estimates the AKM model on 5 separate 7-year intervals. It is based on a program from Card, Heining, and Kline (2013).
2. `PostEstimation_FEAnalysis.sas`. Computes a variety of descriptive statistics of the AKM output.
3. `PostEstimation_JobMobility.sas`. This program computes the stats for the job mobility figures.
4. `PostEstimation_JobMobility_FigsTables.do`. This program produces the job mobility figures.
5. `FUI_Tables_Figures.do`. This program creates most of the figures and tables for the AKM part of the paper.
6. `StatsFigsTabs.do`. This program computes the stats for a few more tables that were used in FUI.